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AM-JFK 1STLD-PICKUP 4THGRAF A230 1-18
BY DAVID NAGY

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE FBI SPIED ON AND RESENTED THE WARREN COMMISSION'S KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WORK AND THE COMMISSION, IN TURN, SUSPECTED LEE HARVEY OSWALD HAD BEEN AN FBI AGENT, NEWLY RELEASED FILES DISCLOSED WEDNESDAY.

THE NEARLY 60,000 PAGES OF FBI ASSASSINATION FILES SHOW THE BUREAU CONSIDERED THEN-REP. GERALD FORD AS ITS INFORMANT INSIDE THE WARREN PANEL, AND THAT J. EDGAR HOOVER KEPT A BITTER FEUD GOING WITH CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN ON GROUNDS HIS COMMISSION LACKED CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI.

HOOVER WAS INSULTED AND INFURIATED BY AN EARLY WARREN COMMISSION BELIEF -- APPARENTLY CLEARED UP QUICKLY -- THAT THE FBI HAD SENT OSWALD TO RUSSIA AS AN AGENT IN 1959; BY ITS ACCUSATIONS THE BUREAU WAS LEAKING INFORMATION TO THE PRESS; AND BY ITS CONCLUSION THE FBI SHOULD HAVE TOLD THE SECRET SERVICE WHAT IT KNEW ABOUT OSWALD BEFORE JOHN F. KENNEDY WENT TO DALLAS.

CALLING THE FINAL WARREN REPORT "SERIOUSLY INACCURATE IN SO FAR AS ITS TREATMENT OF THE FBI IS CONCERNED," THE DIRECTOR LAMENTED IN ONE STAFF MEMO:

"THE BUREAU WILL NEVER LIVE THIS DOWN AND WILL (BE) VIEWED AS A SECOND RATE OUTFIT HENCEFORTH."

"WE COULD NOT ARREST EVERY CRACKPOT WITHOUT CREATING A POLICE STATE," HOOVER SAID IN ANOTHER DEFENSIVE REBUTTAL OF ALLEGATIONS HIS MEN WERE DERELICT IN NOT PROTECTING KENNEDY FROM OSWALD.

DESCRIBING HIMSELF AT "OUTRAGED" AT THE WARREN REPORT'S CRITICISMS ON THAT SCORE, HOOVER TOOK HIS GRIPE RIGHT TO PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON AND NOTED IN A FILE MEMO DATED OCT. 20, 1964:

"THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT HE WAS SYMPATHETIC WITH MY VIEWS AND THAT HE INTENDED AT AN EARLY DATE TO FIND THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICLY REAFFIRM HIS FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI AND ITS DIRECTOR."

RAILING AT CRITICS THAT RANGED FROM WARREN TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND SUCH CONSPIRACY THEORISTS AS COMEDIAN DICK GREGORY, HOOVER MADE PLAIN HE TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN THE FBI'S KENNEDY PROBE AND ITS FAST CONCLUSION -- ONLY DAYS AFTER THE KILLING -- THAT OSWALD ACTED ALONE, WITHOUT CONSPIRATORS FROM CUBA OR ANYWHERE ELSE.

"WE HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED IN THIS PARTICULAR PHASE OF OUR INVESTIGATION," HE SAID, IN A FILE NOTE, CONCERNING THE BUREAU'S FINDINGS THAT OSWALD HAD NO CUBAN CONNECTION WHATSOEVER.

AT A POINT EARLY IN THE ASSASSINATION PROBE, WHEN THE NATION WAS ASSUMING THE FBI AND THE COMMISSION WERE WORKING HAND IN GLOVE, HOOVER REFUSED THE PANEL'S REQUEST THAT IT MAINTAIN THE COMMISSION'S EVIDENTIARY EXHIBITS.

"THE COMMISSION HAS NOT SHOWN ANY CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI," HOOVER FUMED IN A NOTE PENCILLED INTO THE MARGIN OF A MEMO. "THEY HAVE CALLED ON OTHER TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO RECHECK OUR WORK AND HAVE SENT SQUADS OF ATTORNEYS TO DALLAS AND NEW ORLEANS TO REINTERVIEW PERSONS ALREADY INTERVIEWED."

PICKUP 4THGRAF: THE HOSTILITY
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